

Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not later than February 28, 1996, and February 28, 1997, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required (1) for the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate, or (2) for the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1995, through February 28, 1996, and March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, to be paid from the Appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

SENATE RESOLUTION 63—RELATIVE TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DODD, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

S. RES. 63

Whereas the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has maintained that the current Consumer Price Index overstates the rate of inflation by as much as 50 percent;

Whereas other expert opinions on the accuracy of the Consumer Price Index range from those indicating a modest overstatement of the rate of inflation to those indicating the possibility of an understatement of the rate of inflation;

Whereas several leaders in the Congress have called for an immediate change in the way in which the Consumer Price Index is calculated;

Whereas changing the Consumer Price Index in the manner recommended by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System would result in both a reduction in Social Security benefits and an increase in income taxes;

Whereas the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System estimates that a 1-percentage point reduction in the Consumer Price Index, effected today, would generate \$150,000,000,000 in revenue over the next 5 years, including \$55,000,000,000 generated during the year 2000 alone;

Whereas the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System estimates that, of the \$55,000,000,000 in revenue estimated to be generated during the year 2000, \$27,500,000,000 would result from a reduction in Social Security benefits and \$21,400,000,000 would result from an increase in personal income taxes, which would primarily impact families with children;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which has responsibility for the Consumer Price Index, is working to identify and correct problems with the way in which the Consumer Price Index is currently calculated; and

Whereas calculation of the Consumer Price Index should be based on sound economic

principles and not on political pressure: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) a precipitous change in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index that would result in an increase in income taxes and a decrease in Social Security benefits is not the appropriate way to resolve this issue; and

(2) any change in the calculation of the Consumer Price Index should result from thoughtful study and analysis and should be the result of a consensus reached by the experts, not pressure exerted by politicians.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, today I join my colleagues Senator DODD and Senator HARKIN to submit a sense-of-the-Senate resolution opposing any precipitous change in the way the Consumer Price Index [CPI] is calculated that is based on politics rather than sound economic analysis.

The discussion in recent days by the Speaker of the House and some others about the calculation of the Consumer Price Index reaffirms the understanding that just because a person is thoughtless doesn't mean they can't also be reckless.

The precipitous call for a change in the Consumer Price Index by the Speaker and others shows again how attracted they are to gimmicks and illusions to prop up the house of cards they call an economic strategy.

This latest suggestion that they dub as technical is one that would cut Social Security COLA's for America's elderly and increase taxes for most of America's taxpayers—all of this under something that they would describe as a technical change.

Let's review what's been said about this. Recently, Chairman Alan Greenspan of the Federal Reserve Board testified before Congress and said that in his judgment the CPI calculation overstates the CPI by 0.5 to 1.5 percent.

I will leave aside, for the moment, the question that begs to be answered. What on earth are Alan Greenspan and his buddies at the Fed doing raising interest rates six times if they think the real rate of inflation is only 1.2 to 1.7 percent.

As to the question about the calculation of the CPI, the studies that have been done—and there have been several—stem mostly from research done by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that calculates the CPI. The Fed study shows it overstates inflation by one-half to 1½ percent. The Congressional Budget Office thinks it overstates inflation by two-tenths of 1 percent to eight-tenths of 1 percent. And there are others in the academic community that think it may actually understate inflation.

This weekend, when asked about Greenspan's comments, the Speaker of the House said that he would give the Bureau of Labor Statistics people "30 days to get it right" or he would fire them and give the job to the Fed. And DICK ARMEY, the House majority leader, said he wants to change the CPI immediately. Of course the motive for both is that if they can use a gimmick

like changing the CPI they will reduce the deficit by cutting Social Security COLA's and by increasing taxes and claim it's all just technical.

The appetite to play these games to justify their economic proposals seems boundless. First they propose to change the way proposals in Congress are scored so that their proposals will look less radical. Now they do half-gainers at Alan Greenspan's suggestion that they change the CPI because they think that will be an easy fix to show a reduced deficit even though someone else—the elderly and the wage earners—will pay the price.

Because the Speaker indicated he would mandate the Bureau of Labor Statistics to make this change in 30 days or he would "zero them out of the budget" the three of us will propose today a sense-of-the-Senate amendment to the mandates bill now on the floor expressing the sense of the Senate that changes in the CPI should be a result of consensus reached by experts; not pressure exerted by politicians.

SENATE RESOLUTION 64—ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REPORTED AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. SIMPSON, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, reported the following original resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 64

Resolved, That in carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of such rules, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized from March 1, 1995, through February 29, 1996, and March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, in its discretion (1) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate, (2) to employ personnel, and (3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

SEC. 2. (a) The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 1995, through February 29, 1996, under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,036,481, of which not to exceed \$3,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

(b) For the period March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, expenses of the committee under this resolution shall not exceed \$1,060,341, of which not to exceed \$3,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

SEC. 3. The committee shall report its findings, together with such recommendation for legislation as it deems advisable, to the Senate at the earliest practicable date, but not

later than February 29, 1996, and February 28, 1997, respectively.

SEC. 4. Expenses of the committee under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the committee, except that vouchers shall not be required for (1) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at the annual rate, or (2) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (3) for the payment for stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of Stationery, United States Senate, or (4) for payments to the Postmaster, United States Senate, or (5) for the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, United States Senate, or (6) for the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services.

SEC. 5. There are authorized such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committee from March 1, 1995, through February 29, 1996, and March 1, 1996, through February 28, 1997, to be paid from the appropriations account for "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations."

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will hold a hearing on the reauthorization of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. The hearing will be held on Thursday, January 26, 1995, at 9:30 a.m. in SR-332.

For further information, please contact Chuck Conner at 224-0005.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to hold a business meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, to consider Senate Joint Resolution 1 and Senate Joint Resolution 19.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for an executive session, during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on Oversight of Job Corps, during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at 10 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at 9:30 a.m., to hold hearings on Senate Committee Funding Resolutions. The committee will receive testimony from the chairmen and ranking members of the following committees: Budget, Energy, Finance, Agriculture, Aging, Judiciary, Foreign Relations, Small Business, and Intelligence.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, January 18, 1995, at 2 p.m. to hold a closed hearing on Intelligence matters.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

GOV. PETE WILSON'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, our former colleague, California's Governor Pete Wilson delivered a powerful address on the occasion of his second inaugural on January 7, 1995.

Appropriately titled "Forging America's Future," Governor Wilson's address urges a recommitment "to that miracle we call democracy."

Mr. President, Governor Wilson's eloquent speech is timely and pertinent for all Americans. I commend it to my colleagues' attention.

The address follows:

CALIFORNIA: FORGING AMERICA'S FUTURE

This is a day of renewal. Today, we recommit ourselves to that miracle we call democracy, and to the spirit and promise we call California.

That spirit and promise burn brightest not here in the Capitol, but in the hearts and minds of California's people—in our factories and on our farms, in our factories and on our farms, in our churches and our temples, in our classrooms and around our kitchen tables.

This morning's ceremony is a celebration, and also a vindication: a vindication not of an individual or political party, but of a resilient and sturdy people blessed with courage and character. Though tested and tempered in the forge of adversity, they came through the fire, their faith intact, clinging tenaciously to the promise of California.

When the earth shook and the hills burned, when rivers overflowed and riots scarred our cities, when drought seared the earth and fiscal crises tested our confidence in government itself, a lesser people would have just given up.

But not Californians. That's not the California Way.

When confronted with the worst, we respond with our best.

That is the California Way.

Californians have always answered adversity with bold thoughts and challenged convention with fresh ideas. They have always dared to dream.

The poet Carl Sandburg wrote, "The Republic is a dream. Nothing happens unless first a dream."

In the 1850s, a dream led pioneers West in wagon trains across a desolate prairie and over frozen mountains.

These early pioneers risked their lives crossing the mighty Sierra, till one day they crossed a ridge to find themselves gazing down from the heights upon a golden valley that held the promise of California.

Most of us are not the lineal descendants of those pioneers. We came later. We came by ship from Asia and by station wagon from Ohio. We came during the Great Depression from the Dust Bowl in pick-ups piled high with our possessions. And we came by jet-liner last year, last month, and last week.

Today, we too stand on that same ridge, with a valley of promise spread before us, inviting us to partake of the good life.

But ours is a generation that cannot take for granted the good life, the historically generous bounty of California, unless we are prepared to make dramatic change.

We must act, and act quickly, because we live in a time of great and accelerating change; because we live in a shrinking and more competitive global marketplace; and because, as we rush toward the 21st century, we are at a crossroads and must choose what kind of California we will have.

We must choose whether California will be the Golden State—or a welfare state. It can't be both.

On that, my fellow citizens, there can be no question.

We must be wise enough, tough-minded and honest enough to repeal programs that fail their stated noble purpose and fail expensively, incurring fiscal and human costs that are unaffordable.

The people agree. They are out of patience with misfired good intentions that defy sense or fairness.

They ask: Is it fair that the welfare system taxes working people who can't afford children and pays people who don't work for having more children?

They ask: Why should federal law reward illegal immigrants for violating the law and punish California taxpayers and needy legal residents?

They ask: Why have schools that reward poor teachers for promoting—even graduating—students who can't adequately speak and write English?

And they ask: Why do our laws put dangerous criminals back on our street, and put us behind barred windows and locked doors?

The last refuge of those who call these questions unfair is to assert their compassion, and to deny ours.

The ultimate compassion is to build an economy that works, one that grows and provides the jobs working Californians need to feed their families, build their homes and pay their taxes.

To produce that economy and all the work our people need, we must lift the burdens that government has placed on risk-takers, on the people who create California's jobs. If we over-tax and over-regulate, if our workers are not well-educated and our streets are not safe, we will drive these job-creators to other states.

California can't afford to do that. If we do, we will deserve to lose the talent, the entrepreneurial drive, the energy and innovation that make California all that it is.

So we will not put up with bad schools, or violence on our streets, or regulations that impose costs greater than their benefits, or taxes that dwarf those levied by our neighbors.

We must free our people, and release their creative energy.

By lifting from them the restraints, regulations, and burdens that government has imposed, we free them to seize opportunity and create more.